

4241-198-CON-RCE

month to May 29, 2007, by the petition for extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 contained in the ensuing Remarks section of this response.

The pending claims of the above-identified patent application as set out in **Section I (Listing of the Claims)** beginning on page 3 hereof. **No amendments are being made to the claims.**

Remarks concerning the the substance of the January 29, 2007 Office Action and the April 13, 2007 personal interview with Examiner Thao Le attended by co-inventor Dr. Bruce Baretz and applicants' attorney Steven J. Hultquist are set out in **Section II (Remarks)** beginning on page 12 hereof.

Set out in **Appendix A** hereof is a Declaration of co-inventor Bruce H. Baretz, submitted under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.132. This Declaration is discussed in the ensuing Remarks section of this response, as additional evidence of the patentable character of the claims under consideration.¹

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¹ While possible submission of a declaration under 37 CFR 1.131 was discussed at the April 13, 2007 interview, such submission is unnecessary in view of the patentable distinction of applicants' claimed invention over the cited references.